

IN THE CLAIMS:

1           1.       (Currently Amended) A gerotor and bearing apparatus for a downhole whirling mass  
2 orbital vibrator generating vibration in a borehole, which apparatus comprises:

3                   a gerotor with an inner gear rotated by a shaft having one less lobe than an outer gear;

4                   a whirling mass attached to said shaft;

5                   ~~at least one~~ an upper track roller bearing attached to said shaft engaging and rolling  
6 on an upper ~~at least one~~ sleeve; and

7                   a lower track roller bearing attached to said shaft engaging and rolling on a lower  
8 sleeve; and

9                   means to rotate said inner gear, said mass, and said bearing bearings in a selected  
10 rotational direction to cause said mass, said inner gear and said bearing bearings to backwards whirl  
11 in an opposite rotational direction.

1           2.       (Canceled) A gerotor and bearing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said  
2 bearing is a track roller bearing.

1           3.       (Canceled) A gerotor and bearing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 including a pair  
2 of bearings attached to said shaft engaging a pair of sleeves.

1           4.       (Currently Amended) A gerotor and bearing apparatus as set forth in Claim 3  
2 wherein said ~~pair of~~ bearings and said ~~pair of~~ sleeves are replaceable.

1           5.       (Currently Amended) A gerotor and bearing apparatus as set forth in Claim 3 1  
2 wherein said bearings are on opposite ends of said whirling mass.

1           6.       (Original) A gerotor and bearing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said  
2 means to rotate said inner gear, said mass, and said bearing in a selected rotational direction includes  
3 a drive shaft with a plurality of U-joints.

1           7.       (Currently Amended) A gerotor and bearing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1  
2 including a fluid pump powered by said shaft providing a self-contained drip lubrication system  
3 having a fluid pump moving lubricating oil from an oil sump.

1           8.       (Original) A gerotor and bearing apparatus as set forth in Claim 7 including a pair  
2 of U-joint assemblies.

1           9.       (Original) A gerotor and bearing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 including a pair  
2 of said gerotors spaced from each other and coaxially aligned.

1           10.      (Original) A gerotor and bearing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said  
2 backwards whirling mass is an elongated cylinder.

1           11.      (Original) A gerotor and bearing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said  
2 backwards whirling mass produces vibration energy which is used in enhanced fluid recovery.

12. (Original) A gerotor and bearing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said backwards whirling mass produces vibration energy which is used as a seismic source.

13. (Original) A gerotor and bearing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said backwards whirling mass is an elongated cylindrical configuration with a diameter less than said housing.

14. (Original) A gerotor and bearing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said inner gear backwards whirl at a speed defined by a factor

$$K = \frac{n}{N-n} \quad \text{where } n = \text{number of lobes on inner rotor and} \\ N = \text{number of lobes on outer rotor}$$

15. (Currently Amended) A method to generate vibrational energy in a borehole, which method comprises:

rotating an inner gear of a gerotor by a shaft in a selected rotational direction wherein said inner gear has one less lobe than an outer gear;

rotating a whirling mass in a selected rotational direction by rotation of said shaft so that said mass and said inner gear backwards whirl in a direction opposite to said selected rotational direction; and

transmitting centrifugal force created by said whirling mass from at least one an upper bearing to at least one an upper cylindrical sleeve and from a lower bearing to a lower cylindrical sleeve by contacting and rolling on said sleeve sleeves.

1           16.     (Original) A method to generate vibrational energy in a borehole as set forth in  
2     Claim 15 including transmitting said centrifugal force to a downhole casing.

1           17.     (Original) A method to generate vibrational energy in a borehole as set forth in  
2     Claim 15 wherein said centrifugal force generates vibrational energy.

1           18.     (Canceled) A method to generate vibrational energy in a borehole as set forth in  
2     Claim 15 including contacting a sleeve with at least one bearing rotated by said shaft.

1           19.     (Currently Amended) A method to generate vibrational energy in a borehole as set  
2     forth in Claim 15 including transmitting said centrifugal force from said ~~sleeve~~ sleeves to slips and  
3     to a casing.

1           20.     (Currently Amended) A gerotor and bearing apparatus for a downhole whirling mass  
2     orbital vibrator generating vibration in a borehole, which apparatus comprises:

3                     a pair of gerotors spaced from each other, each gerotor with an inner gear rotated by  
4     a shaft having one less lobe than an outer gear;

5                     a whirling mass attached to said shaft;

6                     a pair of track roller bearings attached to said shaft on opposite ends of said whirling  
7     mass;

8                     means to rotate said inner gears, said mass, and said bearings in a selected rotational  
9     direction to cause said gears, said mass, and said bearings to backwards whirl in an opposite  
10    rotational direction so that said track roller bearings roll on cylindrical sleeves; and

- 11 means to maintain angular radial position and angular alignment between said ends
- 12 of said rotating mass.